

report of a rule entitled "Determination of Housing Cost Amounts Eligible for Exclusion or Deduction for 2016" (Notice 2016-21) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 9, 2016; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-4685. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Consistent Basis Reporting Between Estate and Person Acquiring Property From Decedent" ((RIN1545-BM98) (TD 9757)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 9, 2016; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-4686. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Modification of Rev. Rul. 2005-3" (Rev. Rul. 2016-8) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 9, 2016; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-4687. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Utility Allowances Submetering" ((RIN1545-BI91) (TD 9755)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 9, 2016; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-4688. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Regulations under IRC Section 7430 Relating to Awards of Administrative Costs and Attorneys' Fees" ((RIN1545-BX46) (TD 9756)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 9, 2016; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-4689. A communication from the Director of Regulations and Policy Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Pharmaceutical Science and Clinical Pharmacology Advisory Committee" (Docket No. FDA-2016-N-0001) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 9, 2016; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-4690. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 21-323, "Chancellor of the District of Columbia Public Schools Salary and Benefits Approval Temporary Amendment Act of 2016"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4691. A communication from the Chairman of the Office of Proceedings, Surface Transportation Board, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Information Required in Notices and Petitions Containing Interchange Commitments" (RIN2140-AB13) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 9, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4692. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, Consumer Product Safety Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Toys: Determination Regarding Heavy Elements for Unfinished and Untreated Wood" (CPSC Docket No. CPSC-2011-0081) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 9, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4693. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, Consumer Product Safety Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the re-

port of a rule entitled "Amendment to Clarify When Component Part Testing Can Be Used and Which Textile Products Have Been Determined Not To Exceed the Allowable Lead Content Limits; Delay of Effective Date and Reopening of Comment Period" (CPSC Docket No. CPSC-2011-0081) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 9, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4694. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 21-324, "Protecting Pregnant Workers Fairness Temporary Amendment Act of 2016"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4695. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 21-325, "Marion S. Barry Summer Youth Employment Expansion Temporary Amendment Act of 2016"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. JOHNSON, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 742. A bill to appropriately limit the authority to award bonuses to employees (Rept. No. 114-226).

By Mr. JOHNSON, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with amendments:

S. 1638. A bill to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to submit to Congress information on the Department of Homeland Security headquarters consolidation project in the National Capital Region, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 114-227).

By Mr. ALEXANDER, from the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 2055. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act and the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to national health security.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. NELSON (for himself, Mr. JOHNSON, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. PORTMAN, and Mr. BROWN):

S. 2671. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish rules for payment for graduate medical education (GME) costs for hospitals that establish a new medical residency training program after hosting resident rotators for short durations; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. KING):

S. 2672. A bill to reauthorize the program of the Department of Veterans Affairs under which the Secretary of Veterans Affairs provides health services to veterans through qualifying non-Department health care providers; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. BALDWIN:

S. 2673. A bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and the Safe Drinking Water Act to accelerate the development and

deployment of innovative water technologies; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mrs. BOXER:

S. 2674. A bill to authorize the President to provide major disaster assistance for lead contamination of drinking water from public water systems; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. BOOKER):

S. 2675. A bill to provide for the adjustment of the debts of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. BROWN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. BOOKER):

S. 2676. A bill to provide for the adjustment of the debts of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. COONS, and Mr. KING):

S. Res. 398. A resolution designating March 15, 2016, as "National Speech and Debate Education Day"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. SASSE:

S. Con. Res. 33. A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that those who commit or support atrocities against Christians and other ethnic and religious minorities, including Yezidis, Turkmen, Sabea-Mandaeans, Kaka'e, and Kurds, and who target them specifically for ethnic or religious reasons, are committing, and are hereby declared to be committing, "war crimes", "crimes against humanity", and "genocide"; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 337

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 337, a bill to improve the Freedom of Information Act.

S. 681

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 681, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify presumptions relating to the exposure of certain veterans who served in the vicinity of the Republic of Vietnam, and for other purposes.

S. 683

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 683, a bill to extend the principle of federalism to State drug policy, provide access to medical marijuana, and enable research into the medicinal properties of marijuana.

S. 804

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 804, a bill to amend title XVIII

of the Social Security Act to specify coverage of continuous glucose monitoring devices, and for other purposes.

S. 838

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 838, a bill to amend the Truth in Lending Act to establish a national usury rate for consumer credit transactions.

S. 1110

At the request of Mr. ENZI, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1110, a bill to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to publish in the Federal Register a strategy to significantly increase the role of volunteers and partners in National Forest System trail maintenance, and for other purposes.

S. 1378

At the request of Mr. PAUL, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1378, a bill to strengthen employee cost savings suggestions programs within the Federal Government.

S. 1392

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1392, a bill to require certain practitioners authorized to prescribe controlled substances to complete continuing education.

S. 1890

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the names of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) were added as cosponsors of S. 1890, a bill to amend chapter 90 of title 18, United States Code, to provide Federal jurisdiction for the theft of trade secrets, and for other purposes.

S. 1975

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1975, a bill to establish the Sewall-Belmont House National Historic Site as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes.

S. 2042

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the names of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2042, a bill to amend the National Labor Relations Act to strengthen protections for employees wishing to advocate for improved wages, hours, or other terms or conditions of employment and to provide for stronger remedies for interference with these rights, and for other purposes.

S. 2185

At the request of Ms. HEITKAMP, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) were added as cosponsors of S. 2185, a bill to require the Secretary of the

Treasury to mint coins in recognition of the fight against breast cancer.

S. 2289

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) and the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) were added as cosponsors of S. 2289, a bill to modernize and improve the Family Unification Program, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 349

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 349, a resolution congratulating the Farm Credit System on the celebration of its 100th anniversary.

S. RES. 378

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 378, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the courageous work and life of Russian opposition leader Boris Yefimovich Nemtsov and renewing the call for a full and transparent investigation into the tragic murder of Boris Yefimovich Nemtsov in Moscow on February 27, 2015.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mrs. BOXER:

S. 2674. A bill to authorize the President to provide major disaster assistance for lead contamination of drinking water from public water systems; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, today I rise to address the crisis of lead contamination in drinking water that we are seeing all across this Nation. It is time for us to come together and solve these problems. We have all been outraged by the crisis in Flint, where we know children and families are being poisoned by lead in their drinking water.

My colleagues from Michigan, Senators STABENOW and PETERS, have an excellent bipartisan bill—which Senator INHOFE and I helped to negotiate—that would provide emergency relief to address this crisis. The people of Flint need this relief now. So I call on any of those holding up this bill to get out of the way and let this legislation pass immediately. The crisis in Flint has also brought attention to the broader issue of lead in drinking water in communities throughout our Nation.

I want to read to you some headlines from just the last few weeks. Here is one from the Clarion-Ledger in Jackson, MS: “Pregnant women, kids cautioned over Jackson water, lead.” That is February 25, 2016.

From Newsweek: “With lead in the water, could Sebring, Ohio, become the next Flint?” That is January, 27, 2016.

From the Associated Press: “Elevated Lead Levels Found in Newark Schools’ Drinking Water.”

In Charlotte, the Charlotte Observer: “Lead in water not confined to Flint.” That is January 30, 2016.

Whether it is Flint, MI; Newark, NJ; Jackson, MS; or Durham, NC—or shall I name some places that are going to hit us—the American people have a right to expect clean, safe drinking water when they turn on their faucets.

It is clear that this is a national crisis that demands a national solution going forward. So that is why today I have introduced new legislation, the Lead in Drinking Water Disaster Act. We are doing this because, should there be more Flints, we want to have a better way to move forward.

Currently, the President can declare a major disaster for catastrophes such as hurricanes, tornadoes, earthquakes, tsunamis, storms, droughts, fires, floods, and explosions. Now, sometimes those fires, floods, and explosions are manmade and, yet, we are able to act through FEMA, or the Federal Emergency Management Agency. But lead in drinking water is not on the list of major disasters covered under FEMA’s rules.

It is critical that future Presidents do not have their hands tied because the definition of a major disaster does not include lead in drinking water. My bill ensures that a lead-contamination crisis would be considered a disaster, which it clearly is.

Take a look at the color of the water coming out of the fountains here—the faucets. Nobody could face this in their homes. You would get your kids out of there so fast. Current law doesn’t think this is a disaster. So I think this simple way I have of moving forward should be attractive to colleagues. I hope they will sign on to this very simple bill.

The way it would work is that the Governor in any State that is hit by this would ask the President for a major disaster declaration. So for all of my colleagues who feel we should process these things through the State, that is exactly what happens in my bill. If the President agrees, FEMA would provide immediate assistance to protect families from lead in the water.

What we do in this legislation is we name several agencies who would help create the plan to address the emergency. It would be, in addition to FEMA, Health and Human Services, the EPA, and the Army Corps of Engineers. They would work together to create a plan to resolve the crisis.

We can see what is happening to the kids in Flint. Instead of doing their afterschool activities—look how sweet they are—they are carrying bottles of water throughout their community.

Look, there is no safe level of lead for children. The effects of exposure are generally irreversible. Lead harms the developing brains and nervous systems of children and babies. It can cause miscarriage, stillbirths, and infertility in both men and women. People with prolonged exposure to lead may be at risk for high blood pressure, heart disease, and kidney disease.